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November 21, 2019

Dear Members of the Albertus Magnus High School Community,

The Dominican Sisters have faithfully stewarded Albertus Magnus High School since its inception in 1957 and want Albertus Magnus High School to continue to provide an exceptional Catholic secondary education for Rockland County residents for what we hope will be many years to come. We are committed to working with the AMHS School Board, school administration, and parents to capitalize on the opportunities and meet the financial and demographic challenges that face Albertus Magnus.

As you know, Albertus Magnus High School is now preparing to begin the self-study process for Middle States reaccreditation. The completion of the self-study next fall will present an ideal opportunity to reevaluate our vision to bring the school's mission to life into the future. After careful consideration, we have decided to seek a Head of School who, in partnership with the current school administration, faculty, School Board, and Trustees, will create a Strategic Plan that will leverage the current strengths of the school to focus on the continued growth and vitality of Albertus Magnus. Under the Head of School's leadership, the Strategic Plan will rely on strong governance and collaboration to address current and future challenges as they relate to the school's finances, enrollment, development, the academic and student life programs, and ongoing maintenance of the facility.

The Board of Trustees has engaged the search firm services of Catholic School Management (CSM), a division of Christian Brothers Services, to facilitate a national search. Greg Dhuyvett, CSM Lead Consultant, and Jennifer C. Kensel, CSM Senior Consultant, will be working closely with the Trustees and Head of School Search Committee to identify candidates and to guide the interview and selection process.

A Search Committee has been formed to include Trustees, School Board members, alumni, parents, and friends of Albertus Magnus. I am pleased to announce that the Search Committee will be chaired by Carol Conklin-Spillane, an Albertus alum, a nationally recognized educator, and the Chair of the AMHS School Board. The members of the Search Committee include the following:

- Cathleen Cassel, New York Archdiocesan Regional Superintendent of Schools for Rockland/Orange/Ulster/Sullivan Counties, former principal of St. Gregory Barbarigo School, Garnerville
- Jeanmarie Cooney, parent, Chair of the School Board Finance Committee, former corporate CFO

- Michael DiBartolomeo, School Board member, college administrator, Chair of the School Board Enrollment/Marketing Committee
- Caroline Gizzi, Albertus alum, former AMHS tennis coach, Science, Health & Safety Program Administrator Rockland BOCES
- William Heilferty, Albertus alum, School Board member, business executive
- Sister Mary Murray, President of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, member of the Board of Trustees
- Sister Margaret Palliser, member of the Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, President of the Board of Trustees
- Michael Starvaggi, parent, School Board member, attorney-at-law

The Head of School Search Committee is in the process of developing a search strategy and timeline. It is anticipated that initial interviews with candidates will take place in the early part of 2020. Going forward, the Search Committee will be communicating with you about the process, as appropriate.

The Trustees will appoint a new Head of School who will begin on July 1, 2020. During school year 2020-2021, the new Head of School will have the opportunity to work closely with Principal Christopher Power and key staff members in order to provide continued strong and effective leadership to the Albertus Magnus school community.

Your input is needed and welcome as we determine the desired background, skills and experience levels of ideal candidates for the Head of School position. This information will be important during the candidate interview and selection process. Members of the school community are invited to participate in this process. Your thoughtful and prayerful considerations will provide valuable insights into the search. We invite you to complete a confidential online survey that is available through the following link: surveymonkey.com/r/AMHSHead. This survey will be open until December 10, 2019. In the coming weeks, you will receive information on how to access a dedicated page on the Albertus Magnus High School website that will contain information about the search and will serve as a means for anyone in the school community to ask questions or provide input to the Search Committee.

The Board of Trustees greatly values the engagement of the entire Albertus Magnus community, and we look forward to your participation in this very important process. We are energized and excited for the future and thank you for your continued support of our school.

May you and your family be blessed at this Thanksgiving time. Indeed, we have much for which to be thankful!

Sister Margaret A. Palliser, OP

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Chair, Board of Trustees